



Express Mail Mailing Label No. EL956539073US

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. LEX-003

#23D/100
02.07.03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Gillies et al. CONFIRMATION NO.: 9462
SERIAL NO.: 09/256,156 GROUP NO.: 1646
FILING DATE: February 24, 1999 EXAMINER: J. F. Murphy
TITLE: Enhancing the Circulating Half-Life of Antibody-Based Fusion Proteins.

RECEIVED

FEB 03 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/290

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed from the Patent Office on July 29, 2002. A petition and appropriate fee for a three month extension of time, extending the date for response up to and including January 29, 2003, is enclosed. Applicants believe that no additional fees are due with this submission. However, the Director is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due to Deposit Account No. 20-0531.

AMENDMENTS

Prior to further examination, please amend the application as follows.

In the Claims: Please amend claims 1 and 27 to read as follows. A marked-up version of the claims showing the amendments is attached.

1. (Twice amended) An antibody-based fusion protein comprising at least a portion of a CH2 domain, wherein said portion comprises a domain required for immunoglobulin protection receptor (FcRp) binding affinity, linked to a non-Ig protein, wherein said CH2 domain is an IgG1 or an IgG3 CH2 domain comprising a mutation or a deletion that reduces binding affinity for an Fc receptor, and said antibody-based fusion protein has a longer circulating half-life *in vivo* than said antibody-based fusion protein without said mutation or deletion.